In the Claims

Applicant has submitted a new complete claim set showing marked up claims with insertions indicated by underlining and deletions indicated by strikeouts and/or double bracketing.

Please cancel claims 23-25, 27, 28, 34, 35, 38, 39, 40, 42, 43, 44, 46, 47, 49-62, and 65-124 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please amend pending claims 63 and 64 as noted below.

1. (Original) A method removing a positively charged microbicidal compound and/or degradation products or derivatives thereof from a composition, comprising

contacting a composition with a cation exchange resin, under conditions and for a time sufficient to allow a positively charged microbicidal compound and/or degradation products or derivatives thereof in the composition to bind to the cation exchange resin, and

separating the positively charged microbicidal compound and/or degradation products or derivatives thereof bound to the cation exchange resin from the composition.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the positively charged microbicidal compound is positively charged at physiological pH.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the cation exchange resin is not contained within a matrix.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the positively charged microbicidal compound is an aziridino compound.

5. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein the aziridino compound is an ethyleneimine oligomer.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the composition is a blood product.

7. (Original) The method of claims 6, wherein the method does not substantially change the biological properties of the treated blood product relative to untreated blood product.

8. (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein the biological properties of the treated blood product are not substantially changed after storage at 4°C relative to untreated blood product.

9. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein the blood product is a composition comprising red blood cells.

10. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein the method results in a level of hemolysis of the red blood cells that is no greater than cell washing

11. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein the surface of the cation exchange resin particles does not induce substantial hemolysis of the red blood cells.

12. (Original) The method of claim 6, further comprising washing the blood product after removal of the positively charged microbicidal compound bound to the cation exchange resin.

13. (Original) The method of claim 6, further comprising washing the blood product prior to contacting the composition with a cation exchange resin.

14. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the cation exchange resin is a strongly acidic cation exchange resin.

15. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the cation exchange resin comprises sulfonic groups.

16. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the diameter of the cation exchange resin particles is at least about 100 microns.

17. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein the size of the particles is between about 150 microns and about 300 microns.

18. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the cation exchange resin particles are substantially non-breakable under moderate mechanical stress in dry conditions or suspensions.

19. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the cation exchange resin particles are compatible with water miscible solvents.

20. (Original) The method of claim 19, wherein the cation exchange resin particles do not dissolve or degrade when contacted with water miscible solvents.

21. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the cation exchange resin particles do not create fine particles under moderate mechanical stress.

22. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the cation exchange resin particles have a cation exchange capacity of at least about 1 meq/ml.

23-25. (Canceled)

26. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the method is performed under pH conditions of from about pH 4 to about pH 14.

27-28. (Canceled)

29. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the cation exchange resin particles do not leach toxic components into water based media or blood products.

30. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the cation exchange resin particles are sterilized by gamma or thermal sterilization.

31. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the cation exchange resin is DOWEX™ 50WX8.

32. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the method is performed using a column format, in which the step of contacting a composition with a cation exchange resin is performed by flowing the composition into a column packed with the cation exchange resin, and the step of separating the positively charged microbicidal compound and/or degradation products or derivatives thereof bound to the cation exchange resin from the composition is performed by flowing the composition out of the column.

33. (Original) The method of claim 32, wherein the column is run by gravity or by moderate pressure with a flow rate of less than about 50 ml/min.

34-35. (Canceled)

36. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the cation exchange resin particles have substantially no pores.

37. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the amount of positively charged microbicidal compound in the composition is reduced by at least about 2 logs.

38-40. (Canceled)

41. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the method is performed at a temperature of at least about 20°C.

42-44. (Canceled)

45. (Original) The method of claim 32, wherein the dimensions of the column expressed as a ratio of diameter:length are about 1:5 or less.

46-47. (Canceled)

48. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein method is performed in a column format, the flow rate is from about 1 ml/min to about 2 ml/min, the temperature is about 25°C, and the dimensions of the column expressed as a ratio of diameter:length are about 1:10 or less.

49-62. (Canceled)

63. (Currently amended) The method of ~~any of claims 1-62~~ claim 1, wherein the concentration of microbicidal compound is reduced by at least about 50%.

64. (Original) The method of claim 63, wherein the concentration of microbicidal compound is reduced by at least about 1 log.

65-124. (Canceled)